

Rev. 10/14/2003

Attorney Docket No. SYNC-001/01US

Serial No. 09/487,361

Page 9

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments above and the remarks below as supplemental amendments and remarks to the amendments and remarks previously filed on May 4, 2004. Claims 1-10 have been amended, claims 11-21 have been canceled, and new claims 22-36 have been added. Claims 1-10 and 22-36 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 22, and 36 are independent.

Applicants note that the above amendments are being made for the sake of administrative convenience in an effort to expedite prosecution. Despite these amendments, however, Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's arguments or interpretation of the claims or cited references. Accordingly Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims of different scope, including (without limitation) claims similar to those that have been canceled or amended above.

Summary of in-person interview

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the courtesies extended to their undersigned representative during an in-person interview with Examiner Porter and Supervisory Patent Examiner Thomas on July 2, 2004. During the interview, claims 1-21 were discussed, as were U.S. Patent No. 5,732,398 to Tagawa (hereinafter "*Tagawa*") and the news release entitled, "Red Roof Inns Implements High-Tech Revenue Management System," dated June 2, 1998 (hereinafter the "*Red Roof release*"), each of which were cited by the Examiner in the previous Office Action.

During the interview, the various outstanding rejections were discussed, and the Examiner agreed to reconsider the outstanding rejections in view of a timely filed Supplemental Amendment.

Claims 1-10 and 22-36 are allowable over the references of record

For reasons similar to those discussed in Applicants' prior response, Applicants respectfully submit that the currently pending claims are allowable over the references of record. For instance, as the Examiner recognized during the interview, neither *Tagawa* nor the *Red Roof*

Rev. 10/14/2003

Attorney Docket No. SYNC-001/01US
Serial No. 09/487,361
Page 10

release discloses or suggests calculating a room rate based on a comparison between guest information and guest profile information associated with similar guests.

Likewise, U.S. Patent No. 5,404,291 to Kerr et al. ("*Kerr*") and U.S. Patent No. 4,775,936 to Jung ("*Jung*") both fail to disclose the comparison feature missing from *Tagawa* and the *Red Roof release*.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that currently pending claims 1-10 and 22-36 are allowable over all of the references of record.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance, which is believed to be in order. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this communication, or the application in general, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 703-456-8108.

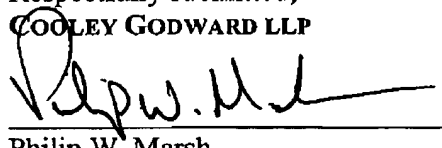
Although it is believed that no fees are required for this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

Dated: July 16, 2004

Cooley Godward LLP
ATTN: Patent Group
One Freedom Square
Reston Town Center
11951 Freedom Drive
Reston, VA 20190-5656
Tel: (703) 456-8000
Fax: (703) 456-8100

Respectfully submitted,
COOLEY GODWARD LLP

By:


Philip W. Marsh
Reg. No. 46,061

212112 v1/RE
4J_001!.DOC